

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LANSING

RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN STATE SUPERINTENDENT

March 31, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

The Office of Professional Preparation Services at the Michigan Department of Education has been working with researchers at the University of Michigan (UM) and University of Chicago (UC) on a project to examine teacher attrition and mobility in the state. As part of this project, the UM-UC team is planning to provide teachers with information about federal student loan forgiveness that is available to individuals who have taught in qualifying schools for at least five years.

You may be contacted by staff from the UM-UC team seeking to obtain teacher email addresses for the purposes of notifying teachers about these loan forgiveness opportunities. If possible, we encourage you to provide them with these emails. While many of these email addresses are publicly available on school or district websites, it is quite time consuming for the research team to compile them manually. The UM-UC team is doing this work pro-bono (i.e., without any financial support from the federal or state departments of education) and is thus attempting to minimize costs.

We can ensure you that these individuals are not seeking to sell your teachers anything, and have agreed not to provide these email addresses to others without the explicit consent of the district.

If you have any questions or concerns about this research, please feel free to contact us at (517) 335-0874 or (517) 373-7861.

Respectfully,

Sarah-Kate LaVan, Ph. D.

Consultant Manager

Sean Kottke, Ph. D. Education Consultant

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